



Helen Mary Jones MS
Chair – Culture,
Welsh Language and
Communications Committee

SeneddCWLC@senedd.wales

09 July 2020

Dear Helen Mary Jones,

Thank you for your letter of 18 June asking whether there is an inventory of statues in public spaces. You also asked what steps we are taking to establish an inventory.

Cof Cymru, Cadw's online resource, that provides information on the location and identity of designated and registered historic assets across Wales, includes those statues which are listed or scheduled – see attached list. The list is not exhaustive as the level of information associated with each listed building is variable.

The First Minister has recently announced that he is establishing a task and finish group to oversee the preparation of an audit of historic monuments and memorials, street and building names across Wales that have an association with aspects of black history, and in particular of the role of the British Empire and the slave trade as it applies to Wales. He has also asked for the group overseeing the work to identify and consider issues arising from the audit that might form the basis for a second stage of the project. The Group will be chaired by Gaynor Legall and will comprise representatives selected for their specialist knowledge of the history of slavery and black communities in Wales. A small project team within Cadw will support the work of the Task and Finish Group.

The task and finish group will provide specialist advice in support of:

- An audit of contentious statues, memorials and other commemorative structures in public spaces in Wales, including collecting information on their history, ownership and responsible bodies and whether or not they are designated.
- An audit of contentious street and public building names.
- A summary review of issues raised by these sites, names and buildings and the development of initial ideas for further work.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

The objective will be to complete the audit of sites and place names including the identification of issues raised by the audit by the end of October this year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elis-Thomas'.

Yr Arglwydd Elis-Thomas AS/MS

Y Dirprwy Weinidog Diwylliant, Chwaraeon a Thwristiaeth
Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism